

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

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DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:MWILLIAMSON:JPS

APPROVED BY IO:ROBLAKE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN

SUBJECT: CALL ON IO/ROBLAKE BY APARTHEID COMMITTEE

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. JUNE 23 CALL WAS MADE BY NIGERIAN PERMREP EDWIN O. OGBU, SOMALIA PERMREP HUSSEIN, MR. INGLES (PHILIPPINES) RAPPORTEUR OF APARTHEID COMMITTEE AND THREE UN SECRETARIAT STAFFERS. OGBU, IN HIS CAPACITY AS CHAIRMAN OF THE UN SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON APARTHEID, READ FROM PREPARED TEXT NOTING PAST US EXPRESSIONS OF ABHORANCE ON THE POLICY OF APARTHEID; 1963 US DECISION TO IMPOSE ARMS EMBARGO; US ENDORSEMENT OF RESOLUTIONS REGARDING THE ICJ RULING FOR THE TERRITORY OF NAMIBIA, AND STATED THAT THESE MAJOR STEPS WERE MUCH APPRECIATED IN INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY. PREPARED STATEMENT ALSO REFERRED TO THE US POSITIONS ON GA RESOLUTION 3324, SECTIONS B AND C; US EXERCISE OF VETO OCTOBER 1974 ON SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND US EXERCISE OF VETO IN SECURITY COUNCIL JUNE 6 REGARD-

ING MANDATORY SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA. OGBU ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ALTHOUGH THE UK AND US PRACTICE AN ARMS EMBARGO, FRANCE OPENLY TRADES WITH SOUTH AFRICA. AMBASSADOR OGBU'S FINAL POINTS WERE AIMED AT THE SCARCITY AND SIZE OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN FUNDS FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

2. IN REPLYING TO AMBASSADOR OGBU'S STATEMENT, BLAKE EXPRESSED US COMMITMENT TO FIGHT AGAINST APARTHEID, AND EXPLAINED THAT THERE MAY BE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION AS TO THE MOST EFFECTIVE METHODS FOR ACHIEVING THESE GOALS. BLAKE FURTHER STATED US DOES NOT BELIEVE MANDATORY SANCTIONS WOULD BE EFFECTIVE, AND CITED AS EXAMPLE VIOLATIONS OF RHODESIAN SANCTIONS. HE ALSO POINTED OUT UN CHARTER'S CHAPTER 7 LANGUAGE REQUIRES IMMEDIATE THREAT TO PEACE IN ORDER INSTITUTE MANDATORY SANCTIONS. US DID NOT SEE SUCH A THREAT.

3. BLAKE EXPLAINED THE CONGRESSIONAL ROLE IN DETERMINING BOTH US POLICY AND THE LEVEL OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN SPECIAL FUNDS. IN THIS CONNECTION, BLAKE PROVIDED A BRIEF REVIEW OF THE STATUS OF THE BYRD AMENDMENT. BLAKE POINTED OUT THAT WHILE USG DOES NOT USUALLY TELL COMPANIES HOW TO BEHAVE OVERSEAS, WITH REGARD TO SOUTH AFRICA USG EMPHASIZES UTILIZATION OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES AND ENLIGHTENED ATTITUDES TOWARDS EMPLOYEES. HE POINTED OUT THAT IN LONG RUN SUCH OFFICIAL ENCOURAGEMENT MIGHT PROVIDE A MOST SIGNIFICANT IMPACT.

4. OGBU EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR BLAKE'S CANDID REMARKS. HOWEVER, OGBU POINTED OUT THAT SINCE THE US AND UK HAVE NO MILITARY TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND SINCE FRANCE DOES HAVE SUCH TRADE WITH SOUTH AFRICA (ON GROUNDS THAT SANCTIONS ARE NOT MANDATORY AND, THEREFORE, FRANCE NEED NOT PARTICIPATE IN SANCTIONS), OGBU COULD NOT UNDERSTAND WHY US AND UK REFUSED TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF MAKING THE SANCTIONS MANDATORY. BLAKE REPLIED THAT THE FRENCH ARE ACUTELY AWARE OF WHAT WE THINK ABOUT THEIR ARMS POLICIES WITH SOUTH AFRICA. HE STRESSED, AND OGBU AGREED, THAT THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION IN TERMS OF SOUTH AFRICAN RACIAL POLICIES LIES WITHIN SOUTH AFRICA. HOWEVER, OGBU STRESSED THAT WITH THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TRIPLE VETO, A SMALL BUT POWERFUL MINORITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY APPEARS TO BE APPROVING SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICIES.

5. AMBASSADOR HUSSEIN, SPEAKING AS REPRESENTATIVE OF OAU, STRESSED LONG-RANGE INTEREST FOR THE US IN TAKING STRONG ACTION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA AND THAT INSTEAD US IS RIDING A "LOSING HORSE". HE STRESSED THAT WHEN CHANGE COMES, AS

IT MUST, THE US WILL NOT BE SEEN AS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR
TO THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITUATION.

6. BLAKE CLOSED THE 50-MINUTE CORDIAL MEETING WITH
REASSURANCES OF US COMMITMENT TO A PEACEFUL SOLUTION,
AND REASSURED THE GROUP THAT IT WAS VERY CLEAR TO THE
SOUTH AFRICANS THAT THE US DOES NOT SUPPORT ANY CONTINUA-
TION OF THEIR POLICIES ON APARTHEID. KISSINGER

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